GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
RURAL DEVELOPMENT
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:3915
ANSWERED ON:13.08.2015
Livelihood of Rural People
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Will the Minister of RURAL DEVELOPMENT be pleased to state:

(a) whether agriculture is the major source of livelihood for rural people;

(b) whether most of the illiterate farmers have not been successful in cultivating their land economically and they are still following age old practices of cultivation; and

(c) the measures taken to educate illiterate farmers to adopt modern techniques of farming to yield good crops economically?

Answer

MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RURAL DEVELOPMENT
(SHRI SUDARSHAN BHAGAT)

(a): Yes, Madam. As per Economic Survey 2014-15 agriculture and allied services accounted for a 48.9 percent share in the employment in 2011.

(b): Yes, Madam. There is significant gap between scientific and modern method of cultivation and practices that are followed by farmers.

(c): The government is implementing various crop development schemes viz; National Food Security Mission (NFSM) on Rice, Wheat, Pulses, Coarse Cereal and Commercial Crops (Cotton, Jute and Sugarcane) and Bringing Green Revolution in Eastern India (BGREI). Under these schemes, scientific crop production technologies are being promoted at farmers field through organization of cluster demonstrations and training of farmers. Assistance is being provided to the farmers on distribution of farm implements/ machines, irrigation devices, plant protection chemicals and soil ameliorants. The commercial crops (Cotton/Jute/Sugarcane) primarily focus on cropping system approach for transfer of technology. Besides, Crop Diversification Programme is being implemented in Original Green Revolution States viz, Punjab, Haryana and in Western Uttar Pradesh to diversify paddy area towards less water requiring crops like oilseeds, pulses, coarse cereal and agro-forestry.
Besides above, Department of Agriculture & Cooperation (DAC) is also implementing National Mission on Sustainable Agriculture (NMSA), National Mission on Agriculture Extension Technology (NMAET), National Mission for Protein Supplements (NMPS) through transfer of technology on Agriculture & Allied activities during 12th Plan period.

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